



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Chief Administrative Officer  
Director of Public Social Services

At its meeting held August 12, 2003, the Board took the following action:

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The following item was called up for consideration:

The Director of Public Social Services' recommendation to approve and instruct the Chair to sign Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP) agreements with AltaMed Health Services Corporation, El Nido Family Centers, Foothill Family Service and Southern California Youth and Family Center, at an estimated maximum cost of \$19,058,180, funded by CalWORKs Single Allocation, to provide Cal-Learn Case Management services tailored to meet the needs of parenting teens to complete their high school education, effective September 1, 2003, or the day after Board approval, whichever is later, through August 31, 2006; also authorize the Director to prepare and execute an AFLP agreement with Childrens Hospital Los Angeles, to provide Cal-Learn Case Management services to Cal-Learn participants, at an estimated maximum cost of \$1,969,538, funded by CalWORKs Single Allocation, effective September 1, 2003, or the day after execution, whichever is later, through August 31, 2006.

The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Burke and Yaroslavsky:

"The County of Los Angeles provides CalWORKs case management and supportive services to over 3,600 teens through the Cal-Learn Program. Currently, there are five contracted service providers who have been certified and deemed eligible by the State to provide these essential services. These providers for services to teens are just as crucial to the County's welfare-to-work efforts as are the case managers for the adult population. However, for the past several years the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) has not been actively monitoring the outcome measures.

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“A recent review of available data shows that in Fiscal Year 2002-03 only 11.8% of reported Cal-Learn teens graduated from high school (down from 18.9% the previous year) and only 14% maintained the required minimum ‘C’ grade point average. Additionally, only 42.7% attended the orientation session and less than half of those enrolled in school submitted their report cards for review.

“In light of the declining graduation rates and the need to improve overall academic performance, it is imperative that DPSS begin to actively track and report the outcomes of Cal-Learn in order for this Board to accurately assess the success and future needs of the program.”

Therefore, Supervisor Yaroslavsky made a motion that the Board take the following actions:

1. Adopt the Director of Public Social Services’ attached recommendations as amended to approve the Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP) agreements on a month-to-month basis, not to exceed three months;
2. Delegate authority to the Director of Public Social Services to:
  - a. Change the term of the contracts to one year, with two one-year options to renew;
  - b. Approve the renewal years based on contractor performance;
  - c. Determine appropriate performance measures and outcomes for the Cal-Learn Program and include such performance measures and outcomes in the contracts;
  - d. Negotiate for the renewal years a payment structure that is performance-based, but does not exceed the total cost approved by the Board for each AFLP; and
  - e. Monitor and evaluate the performance measures and outcomes for the entire Cal-Learn Program as well as for each AFLP agency; and

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3. Instruct the Director of Public Social Services to provide quarterly reports to the Board for one year, after the initial three months, with reports to include school enrollment rates, school grades, fluctuations in average school grade point averages, high school graduation rates, higher education and vocational education training placement and completion rates, employment rates, birth rates for teen participants and any other outcome measurements that are required by State and Federal governments; to be provided in similar format and concurrent to case management reports for the CalWORKs adult population.

Lisa Nunez, Chief Deputy, Department of Public Social Services, addressed the Board.

Supervisor Knabe made the following statement:

“Tracking successes of programs should not be limited to the Adolescent Family Life (Cal-Learn) Program, but to all programs providing direct services to our constituents such as administered by the Departments of Children and Family Services, Public Social Services, Community and Senior Services, and Probation. Reporting outcomes of some programs is now already occurring. The ceiling has been raised for service delivery in Los Angeles County as evidenced for example by the data collection efforts now underway by the Los Angeles County Children’s Planning Council.

“All programs should not only be monitored for financial integrity, but also for successes and failures, in other words known as outcomes. Simply put, funds are given to support a particular program – does that program work?”

After discussion, Supervisor Knabe made a suggestion that Supervisor Yaroslavsky’s motion be amended to also instruct the Chief Administrative Officer, in consultation with appropriate County departments and the Los Angeles County Children’s Planning Council, to report back to the Board within 30 days on developing a methodology for tracking outcomes of services delivered in all social service contracts. Supervisor Burke accepted Supervisor’s Knabe’s amendment.

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In addition, Supervisor Burke made a motion that the Board instruct the Director of Public Social Services to report back to the Board within 30 days with a statistical report of the Adolescent Family Life Program broken down by provider, the number of people utilizing the program Countywide, and the number of people who are eligible to use the program because they are children of CalWORKs recipients.

After further discussion, on motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried (Supervisor Molina being absent) the Board took the following actions:

1. Adopted the Director of Public Social Services' attached recommendations as amended to approve the Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP) agreements on a month-to-month basis, not to exceed three months;
2. Delegated authority to the Director of Public Social Services to:
  - a. Change the term of the contracts to one year, with two one-year options to renew;
  - b. Approve the renewal years based on contractor performance;
  - c. Determine appropriate performance measures and outcomes for the Cal-Learn Program and include such performance measures and outcomes in the contracts;
  - d. Negotiate for the renewal years a payment structure that is performance-based, but does not exceed the total cost approved by the Board for each AFLP; and
  - e. Monitor and evaluate the performance measures and outcomes for the entire Cal-Learn Program as well as for each AFLP agency; and

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3. Instructed the Director of Public Social Services to provide quarterly reports to the Board for one year, after the initial three months, with reports to include school enrollment rates, school grades, fluctuations in average school grade point averages, high school graduation rates, higher education and vocational education training placement and completion rates, employment rates, birth rates for teen participants and any other outcome measurements that are required by State and Federal governments; to be provided in similar format and concurrent to case management reports for the CalWORKs adult population;
4. Instruct the Chief Administrative Officer, in consultation with appropriate County departments and the Los Angeles County Children's Planning Council, to report back to the Board within 30 days on developing a methodology for tracking outcomes of services delivered in all social service contracts.
5. Instructed the Director of Public Social Services to report back to the Board within 30 days with a statistical report of the Adolescent Family Life Program broken down by provider, the number of people utilizing the program Countywide, and the number of people who are eligible to use the program because they are children of CalWORKs recipients.

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Attachment

Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor  
County Counsel  
Executive Director, Los Angeles County  
Children's Planning Council  
Director of Children and Family Services  
Director of Community and Senior Services  
Chief Probation Officer